

SOME OF THE ASSETS OF THE COMMUNITY

A BRILLIANT AND INSPIRING ADDRESS DELIVERED BEFORE THE LOCAL Y. M. C. A. SUNDAY AFTERNOON.

SOME EXCELLENT THOUGHTS CLOTHED IN ELOQUENT LANGUAGE.

(By Hon. E. M. Showalter.)

I have been requested to discuss briefly "Some of the Assets of the Community," and when we enumerate the assets of a community we have taken into the account those that are to be found in the trial balance sheet of the Nation, for the Nation after all, is only the aggregate community. And in this country as in no other country in the world, and at this time as at no other period recorded in history, the credit side of that sheet stands out in bold relief bearing eloquent testimony to the solvent condition of this great community, to the peace and good order which universally prevails, to the prosperity that is equally distributed without discrimination throughout our land and to the substantial increase in the item of intellectual and moral force among our people.

Descended as we are from ancestors whose independent spirits could not longer brook the tyranny and oppression of monarchical Europe, in whose breasts there fanned the flames of liberty and popular government; who had the courage and the fortitude to brave the dangers of the sea and the pitfalls of the forest, who established a nation founded upon liberty as a home for their children, and a haven for the oppressed of every clime; and then baptized it in the richest blood that ever flowed from the breasts of patriots; we, as their descendants, to-day are visited with a priceless inheritance and enjoy the richest blessings that have ever fallen to the lot of the children of men.

What are some of the assets of our community? The riches of the forests are ours, the boundless treasures of the mountains have been bidden to come forth from their hiding places; the products of fertile plains and valleys fill our store houses; science, mechanical genius and invention have effaced distances, and put the whole world into immediate communication, constantly interchanging the commerce of one community with that of another, until the comforts and rarest luxuries of life are within the easy grasp of the lowliest individual; wholesome laws are ours, not those that oppress, but laws which help and protect and foster; institutions are in our midst, and that to bless; educational, charitable, philanthropic; and thus we might go on enumerating our material resources ad libitum.

But there is one asset upon which all these depend; without which our boasted institutions would fall into decay; our rich and fertile country be converted into a tangled thicket of thorns and worthless vegetation; and our liberty that has become the pride and greatest triumph of Christian civilization would be as hollow mockery; our Declaration of Independence with all its historic and patriotic significance, our written constitutions, our solemnly enacted laws, and the dignity and majesty of our courts would be as so many palsied arms, if we were not able to count among the assets of our community the strength and power of a vigorous, stalwart, young, incorruptible manhood. A decree was entered on the 6th day of the creation by which this fact was indisputably established. For God said "Let us make man in our own image, after our likeness; and let him have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowls of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created He him."

Here then do we find the original grant upon which our inheritance is based; back to which man may trace a clear and indefeasible title to the earth, together with its appurtenances and all things therein contained, for the use, benefit and enjoyment of him and his successors forever; and of his dominion over every other living creature upon the earth, in the air above, and in the waters under the earth.

Did we say this title is indefeasible? I have not consulted the commentators and the construction which I give to this grant may not be orthodox; but I see in it one forfeiture clause, one condition precedent, one covenant upon the part of the grantee to be faithfully performed and kept. Man was not vested with dominion over the earth because he was man, but because he was made in the likeness and in the image of God. The real assets of a community then are those which stand pledged to protect and defend, preserve and perpetuate the title, the inheritance and the dominion which became vested in man

by virtue of the resemblance and relationship he bears to God. Not necessarily physical resemblance, but God-like, in intelligence, in the power to reason, to think, to understand, to love, to forgive, the disposition and the will to make self-interest a secondary consideration, when the interest of self comes in conflict with the general good and the divine scheme of creation. And we do have such, and many of them too. If a man commits a crime or is guilty of some gross injustice, the fact is proclaimed from the house-tops, and heralded over the country and magnified and enlarged upon; and some there are, who say that the world is being steeped in wickedness, the good old days of simple honesty are gone forever; far be it from me to have lived to see the depravity of this generation; but they do not reflect that for every single isolated case of wrong doing, there are multitudes of courageous, conscientious, unpretentious men and women, going about along the highways and through the by-paths of life, doing good, relieving the distressed, ministering to the afflicted, lifting up the fallen, lightening the burdens of the weary, pointing the door of hope to the despondent, and dispersing the darkest clouds with sunlight of their sweet and smiling faces; unobtrusively, it is true, and without public outcry and advertisement, for the true man who is counted as one of the valuable assets of a community vaunteth not his good deeds more than himself and is not puffed up.

I like not the pessimist nor the croaker. He is a valuable asset to the community who loves the sunshine and the flowers and the beauties of nature which are showered all about him, and so directs his conduct that in his life we may see the reflection of a soul moulded in the image of the Divine and destined to enjoy a greater inheritance in the hereafter for having rendered a faithful account of his stewardship here. I like the man who refuses to sit down and brood over every little obstacle that besets his pathway, but who forges bravely on, with head erect, and hope undaunted, leading his fellows through the vicissitudes of fortune, out into peaceful valleys, warmed by the sunshine of love, along which may be traced the foot-prints of the lowly Nazarene as He bore upon his shoulders the cross, weighted down with the sins of the world and the weaknesses and frailties of the human family. I like the poet from whose pen fall words of cheer and comfort and consolation and hope.

"They's been a heap o' rain, but the sun's out to-day
And the clouds of the wet spell is all cleared away.
And the woods is all the greener, and the grass is greener still,
It may rain agin to-morrow, but I don't think it will.
Some says the crops is ruined and the corn's drowned out,
And prophesy the wheat'll be a failure without a doubt;
But the kind Providence that has never failed us yet,
Will be on hands on't more at the 'leventh hour, I'll bet.

Does the medder lark complain as he swims high and dry,
Through the waves of the wind and the blue of the sky,
Does the quail set up a whistle in a disappointed way
Er hang his head in silence and sorrow all the day?
Is the chip-munk's health a-failin', does he walk or does he run
Don't the buzzards ooze around up thar just like they've aius done?
Is they anything the matter with the roosters lungs or voice,
Ort a mortal be complainin' when dumb animals rejoice?

Then let us one and all be contented with our lot,
The June is here this mornin', and the sun is shinin' hot;
Oh, let us fill our hearts up with the glory of the day,
And banish every doubt and care and sorrow fur away;
Whatever be our station with Providence fer guide,
Such fine circumstances ort to make us satisfied;
Fer the world is full of roses and the roses full of dew,
And the dew is full of heavenly love that drips for me and you.

In footing up then, the assets of this community, to what extent are they augmented by our young men? What do they contribute to the material, commercial, social and moral growth of our progressive city? Credit is not always given where credit is due; the things which are Caesar's are not always rendered unto Caesar; but I assert that your contribution is greater and more potent than all others combined; if the establishment and maintenance of this association

were your only contribution, you are to be commended most highly for that alone. And the progress you have made here and the work you are doing for the community merits the sympathy and co-operation of all the people in our city—and you are capable of doing much more. Instead of these small rooms, you ought to have a splendid Y. M. C. A. building of your own—properly equipped and up-to-date in every particular. And I doubt not you will have it in the near future. In this era of strenuous business activity and large achievements, the young man is very much in evidence; in the gigantic business enterprises of to-day, it requires the vigor, the energy, and the courage of the young man to plan and contrive and execute; and in the past few years, he has been placed at the helm of great industrial projects, of marvelous engineering feats, of stupendous financial consolidations, with results as remarkable for their successful termination as for the difficulty and delicacy of the undertakings. The young man in a community who possesses this kind of power and ability is an asset of which that whole community should be proud; the young man who has the power to make of himself so valuable an asset for the material welfare of the community has also the power to be an asset in the column of moral resources, and it is expected of him that he shall be; for he never had been possessed of these powers of heart and brain, but for the fact, that he was made in the likeness and in the image of God.

Now just a suggestion with respect to some of the essential elements of true manhood, and the qualities that should be cultivated by the young man who would aspire to be counted by the community as one of its genuine assets. It goes without saying that the first three essentials are honesty, industry and sobriety; failing in any one of these attributes, even in slight and seemingly trivial particulars, is to fail utterly, even before the real life struggle is fairly begun.

Loyalty to your employer and devotion to his interests is a quality far too important to be as frequently overlooked as it is; the young man who attaches more importance to the amount of his salary than to the skill and intelligence he brings to the performance of his duty, will be an underling and a clerk when his hair is tinged with gray. The young man who at the first stroke of the clock that sounds the quitting hour, rushes from his task with no thought as to the condition in which his work is left, will wait for many, many years before he is called up higher to exercise a responsible supervision over any branch of his employer's business. The young man who thinks that he knows better than his employer how the business should be conducted, and explains it all to his friends at the expense of the time he should be devoting to the task assigned him, will probably never be called into the director's room for his counsel, but in later years the story of the fatal blunders made by a certain prominent business man, once his employer, will be by him recounted over and over again to the loafers, sitting on the empty boxes at the corner grocery. The young man who gets busy with his fellow workmen, aggravating and exaggerating the wrongs which they all suffer in common, both real and imaginary, and who insists that all labor shall be performed as per schedule fixed by organization rules, and that wages and compensation shall likewise be as per schedule based upon fixed averages, thereby making it possible for the sluggard and the incompetent to receive the same remuneration as the skillful industrious workman, or rather keeping the compensation of the industrious and ambitious toiler down to the level of the average or standard fixed for the idler, that young man will probably never earn and never receive more than an average wage himself.

In the business world to-day, men rise by merit, and that this rule is now more rigidly adhered to than ever before, there can be no question. The opportunities for advancement to the young man who has brains and industry and character are without limit; it matters not what field of occupation he has entered; if he uses his talents as he should, he will find the top rounds of the ladder inviting him to come up, and helping hands reaching out to him to assist him, but there is absolutely no room even at the bottom, for the chronic complainer and calamity howler.

In a prospectus recently published by one of the wide awake Y. M. C. A. Associations of the country there appears this statement: "The young men of our city are its greatest assets. By their labor they are creating its wealth, by their character they are establishing its morals; by their standards is to be measured our citizenship, and by their progress and intelligence is to be rated the future of our city." And not only is this true, but more might be truthfully added. In a democratic government like our own we could not long exist upon our history and traditions, as glorious as they are. We live in the present and are building for the future; and the

progress, development and very existence of our governmental fabric, depends entirely upon the growth and development of the individual character, for our nation is not only an aggregate of individuals, each one of whom is a sovereign, and a part of the body politic; and the character of the nation cannot be higher or stronger than the average of the individuals comprising the nation; and the Young Men's Christian Associations of the country, and other like organizations, may well look to the establishment of the most liberal facilities for training, and the broadest possible means of culture for the young men of our land; for if our fathers before us have had problems to confront and solve, they are as trifles, in comparison with those that will present themselves to some of the young men who are in this audience here this afternoon; and when they come they will demand solution, and we must meet them, and solve them, or fall far short of the mission we were placed here to perform, and suffer our beloved country to be swallowed up in the maelstrom of revolution that has overtaken and crushed great and powerful nations in the past.

Look if you dare, a short distance into the future, say twenty-five years, when most of you young gentlemen will be yet in the prime of life, and imagine if you can the conditions which will then prevail in this community, when at the present rate of increase in population alone, and a most cosmopolitan one it will in all probability be, you will be able to travel by electric car from New York to Philadelphia in one hour and never get outside of the city limits; when the entire upper Monongahela, on both its banks, will be a perfect hive of industry, and the lights of the City of Fairmont will throw their rays on some of the streets and alleys of the suburbs of Clarksburg; with all the transformations that will come in our modes of life and in our manner of toil through the genius of the inventor, and scientific discoveries which seem to have only fairly begun; with all the social evils that inevitably attend great industrial developments; with all the conflicts through which you must ere that time pass; the trust problems, the labor problems, the race problems; with ranting demagogues abroad in the land, ever ready in the name and under the guise of some pretended reform to appeal to the basest human passions and class prejudices; it would therefore seem that the time is ripe for the young men of the country to take an inventory, to be sure that the stock of assets on hand is sufficiently patriotic and conservative to meet any emergency call that may be made upon the Treasury.

But while we may well look with some trepidation upon the prospects and responsibilities ahead of us, that we may be prepared and not caught unawares, yet for one I have the utmost confidence in the patriotism and integrity of my fellow citizens, and I cannot refrain from adding, in the manifest destiny of this nation; in every emergency in our past history the gap has been filled, just at the opportune time by men, stalwart, courageous incorruptible men, and it will be so; we are growing a fresh supply of them all the time, but not more than we need, for in addition to the high prerogative of self government which we must exercise, we are investing some of our assets abroad, and following the clearly defined course of duty, and destiny if I may repeat the term, we have become a world power; an arbiter of the destiny of other nations; a guardian and protector of the liberties of new republics; a leader in the world's commerce and civilization; an international benefactor, accomplishing for the benefit of all the peoples of the earth, the construction of a great interoceanic canal; the realization of the dream of four centuries; a missionary, carrying from the abundance of our assets, to all countries and to the remotest islands of the sea, some of the blessings of liberty and the seeds of Christian civilization.

OUR TITLE IS CLEAR

Senator Dilliver, in his speech in the Senate on the Tariff and the trusts, said the Republican party inherited its historic faith from our fathers and traced the line of inheritance as follows: When William McKinley died he left it as a rich legacy to us who followed him in the great triumphs of his public life. It was not a discovery of his. He got it from Abraham Lincoln, who got it from Henry Clay, who got it from Alexander Hamilton, who got it from Benjamin Franklin; so that our title is clear, our abstract perfect, without lien of encumbrance, running back to the original sources of American common sense.—New Haven Journal and Courier.

Aged Morgantown Man Dead.
MORGANTOWN, May 9.—(Special.)—Joel D. Nuzum, aged 78, died here yesterday afternoon after an illness of only four days. He was a highly respected citizen and very active for a man of his age. He was born at Nuzum's Mills, where his brother, Edward Nuzum, now lives. He leaves a wife and seven children.

READ THIS COPY OF THE Daily West Virginian

If you are a subscriber, that's nice; if not, we want you.

THE DAILY WEST VIRGINIAN is new, and has its shortcomings. You know about that. You were new once yourself! But we are working hard to make our paper second to none in this region.

IT TAKES MONEY AND HARD WORK to establish an up-to-date paper. If you do not know about that, you can take our word for it. We knew it before we started, but we felt that some interests in this community needed such a paper as we propose to run.

WE ARE "BOOSTERS," NOT "KNOCKERS."

We believe Fairmont to be at the threshold of her greatest era of prosperity. To promote her best interests and uphold her various institutions will be our daily concern. We need all the enterprises we have. To encourage the men who are helping to build up this community will be our delight. We will try to give

ALL THE NEWS,

and occasionally tell you *what we think about things.*

TEN CENTS buys the Daily one week, forty cents is the price per month; while four dollars pays for it a whole year.

"Come thou with us and we will do thee good.

First Floor New Jacobs Building, Monroe Street and Porter Alley.

DON'T MARRY THIS WOMAN

To reform her—
Who flirts.
Who is fickle.
Who is mannish.
Who is extravagant.
Who likes to quarrel.
Who is not truthful.
Who is not sympathetic.
Who does not love children.
Who does not love her home.
Who does not respect old age.
Who is unkind to her parents.
Who thinks no one else has any rights.
Who is always seeking for compliments.
Who does not love God above all things.
Who is always running to women's meetings.
Who says she could never love a poor man.
Who thinks she is the only girl in the world.
Who has two kinds of manners—society and home.
Who wants a man to spend all his money on her.
Who is careless of her appearance when at home.
Who is not loved by her brothers and sisters.
Who thinks men are on the earth for her convenience.
Who is always ready to speak ill of her neighbor.
Who laughs at girls who attend church often.
Who cries if she does not get her way in everything.
Who gets angry if her fiancé speaks to other girls.
Who only attends church when she gets a new bonnet or dress.
Who will not do house work for fear of soiling her hands.
Who does not know how to cook and sew and says she can never learn.
Who lets her mother do all the work while she plays the piano.
Who shuns other girls because their clothes are not as good as hers.
Who will not defend another woman when it is in her power to do so.
Who lets her parents struggle for a living when she could help them by going out to work.
Who does not take any interest in her home.
Who is never satisfied unless she is away from home.

Notice.

My entire line of millinery is still going at cost. Come in and see. I have some pretty hats for a little money. MRS. LAURA FRAZER, 423 Jackson St. x

GREAT MOMENTS OF HISTORY

How They Affected The History Of the World.

Napoleon had declared his intention of retreating from Moscow.
"But," protested Marshal Ney, "if we go back without fighting, will not the Russians declare we had cold feet?"
"Yes," replied the Man of Destiny; "but if we don't get out of here history will record that we got them frozen off entirely. Therefore I elect to go."

Omar Khayyam has just written his Rubaiyat.
"Aren't some of your figures a trifle outre?" inquired a critic. "You say 'the bird of Time is on the wing.' Who ever heard of a bird of Time? Where would one look for this species of fowl?"
"In a cuckoo clock," answered the Persian, wearily relighting his Port Rican in the gas jet.

Sir Phillip Sidney had just refused the drink of water on the battlefield. "Give it to that poor fellow yonder. His need is greater than mine."
"But, my lord, you are dying, and this is the last cup of water we have."
"In that case," he replied with characteristic good nature, "if you deny water to that other fellow you do wrong to fill up Sidney."

Franklin had just succeeded in drawing the electricity from the clouds by means of a kite and silk thread.
"I suppose you will make use of this discovery," was suggested, "in applying it to the operation of trolley cars."
"Not at all," replied the Great Diplomat. "I will devote myself to the invention of lightning rods. You see, my aim is to use this discovery to protect the life of man instead of killing him off in large handfuls."—New York Sun.

ON A WESTERN TOUR

The W. V. U. base ball team, numbering thirteen men, came in on 50 this afternoon and left for the west on 71. To-morrow they play Denison University at Granville, Ohio; Wednesday, Ohio Wesleyan at Delaware; Thursday at Kenyon; Friday at Wooster; Saturday at Mansfield, and Monday, Ohio State College, at Columbus.

Take the ladies and little folks to see Coughanour and Frazee's circus. It will exhibit here soon.